Assault on National Values and Culture

3494. DR. B.B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any study to ascertain assault on our national values and culture through the open sky policy;

(b) whether the sudden rise of crime chart during the late eighties and early nineties is due to the crime and sex shown in the T.V. programmes; and

(c) if so, in whay way Government propose to save the Indian society and its cultural values from further degeneration?

THE MINISTER OF INFROMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) The Centre for Media Studies (CMS) was commissioned in February, 1994 to conduct a study on the impact of TV, including satellite and Cable TV on the historical, cultural, social, political and intellectual aspects on the countrymen. A significant conclusion drawn in the said report in this regard is that while viewers are apprehensive about the negative trends of violence and vulgarity on television, they don't seem to think they are affected much at individual and family levels.

(b) Doordarshan has not come across any report which has established any such relationship.

(c) Though Government has no control over the contents of the programmes beamed by foreign satellite channels, Doordarshan on its part is constantly endeavouring to telecast programmes depicting Indian history, culture and traditions through programmes in various formats.

Generic Name in Prescriptions by Doctors

3495. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item appearing in 'The Times of India' dated 12th August, 1996, under the caption "Doctors should write generic name in prescriptions";

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take or have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) Yes, Sir. The news item refers interalia to a drug being incorrectly sold by a chemist.

(b) and (c) For drugs purchased for use under the National Programmes and for Hospitals etc. use, purchases are generally made by generic names. However, Private Medical Practitioners can prescribe drugs either by generic or brand names and there is no restriction in this regard under the law. However, the National Essential Drug List gives names only in generic form. Under the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules the requirement is to specify both generic and brand names.

Ticketing of Air India in Bangkok

3496. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA:
DR. SHRIKANT RAM CHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the ticketing of Air India is not being done directly in Bangkok by Air India but is being done by an agent;

(b) whether it is a fact that the costly premises of Air India in Bangkok is given to the agent for a pittance;